

# Environmental Alert

## Pumping Stations

### WHAT HAPPENED?

Several developments have recently had issues, namely blockages, with sewage pumping stations which have led to pollution events e.g. discharge of wastewater (aka sewage) into watercourses.

Discharges of this type not only have a detrimental impact on water quality but can also impact negatively upon human health.

Developments found to be illegally discharging wastewater from pumping stations can be prosecuted by the Regulator (Environment Agency, Natural Resource Wales or the Scottish Environment Protection Agency).



### ACTION TO TAKE

Ensure that suitable and adequate arrangements are in place to minimise the risk of pumping station failures and subsequent pollution risk (in the event of a failure).

**Steps to take:**

- Make sure to maintain a list of all pumping station assets under our control
- Where telemetry is installed, ensure that you have a contract in place for the regular servicing and maintenance of the equipment
- Ensure you have an out of hours procedure, which is well communicated and understood, by all relevant people, for in the event of a pump failure/pollution event

- Ensure that agreements are in place for the attendance of out of hours pollution events with relevant parties
- This may be the local sewerage undertaker or an external contractor with the capability to carry out out of hours maintenance and or clean-up works

**Handover of assets**

Adopted pumping stations and those managed by Management Companies are not our responsibility. It is therefore important that these assets are handed over as soon as practicable to reduce risk to the company.



Persimmon

Health, Safety  
& Environment  
Department